(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme forwarded by him and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE) : (a) No such communication has been received by the Government.

(b) Does not arise in view of the reply to (a) above.

Recovery of Excess Amount obtained by Fertilizers Factories

†1998. SHRI DEVI PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Government have issued notification to recover excess amount obtained by the thirteen owners of the fertilizers factories as retention price from Government;

(b) if so, the total number of fertilizer factories which have misused Government money and the extent of the amount misused;

(c) whether any action is being taken against officers involved in sanctioning crores of rupees every year;

(d) whether the case of refunding of dues to Government stand against any other factory in addition to aforesaid 13 factories; and

(e) if not, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRTRA MOOKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir. In order to contain the outflow of subsidy and fix the consumption norms at the realistic level, Government has revised the consumption norms of the urea units on interim basis w.e.f. 1-4-2000, based on the actual levels achieved in 1999-2000, or the existing level, whichever is lower. The retention prices have also been revised correspondingly, *ad interim*. The revision has led to reduction in retention prices in respect of some units. Such revision is, however, only an interim arrangement and is subject to the decision of the Government on the policy parameters for VII and VIII pricing periods which will include consumption norms also, and will be effective from 1-7-1997.

(b) and (c) On the basis of the recommendation of the Joint Parliamentary Committee in 1992, the consumption norms were not revised in the VI Pricing

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

Period which was extended till 30-6-1997. Changes in the pricing policy parameters for the VII and VIII pricing periods updating and revising the norms for various parameters relevant for the Retention Price-cum-Subsidy Scheme (RPS) covering the period from 1-7-1997 onwards are under consideration of the Government. Since the subsidy payments to the urea units were made on *ad-hoc* basis and as per the provisions governing the payments of subsidy under RPS, the question of misusing the government money by the fertilizer factories and taking action against officers does not arise.

(d) and (e) In the notificaion dated 5-11-2001, consumption norms of the urea units were revised on interim basis w.e.f. 1-4-2000 based on the actual levels achieved in 1999-2000, or the existing level whichever is lower. In accordance with the criterion contained in that notification, only 13 units were covered. Retention prices of all the urea units, including these 13 ones, will be reviewed/ revised once the policy parameters/norms for the VII and VIII pricing periods, which will be effective from 1-7-1997, are notified.

Winding up of Fertilizer Corporation of India

1999. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether BIFR has ordered winding up of Fertilizer Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the action taken by Government to run Fertilizer Corporation of India units;

(d) whether similar notice is being served on Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation also; and

(e) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) BIFR in its meeting held on 2-11-2001 has confirmed its prima facie opinion to wind up the Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI). FCI has filed an appeal along with an application for interim *ex-parte* stay with the Appellate Authority for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (AAIFR) against the order of the BIFR. A Group of Ministers has been consituted to examine the rehabilitation/restructuring